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FIRE FACT NO. 004 CHECKLIST(s) :

TITLE : OWNER/OPERATOR LIFE SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY

CHECKLIST ITEM(s) :

REFERENCE(s) :

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A synopsis of the responsibilities of facility owners and operators to provide an appropriate level of safety for all occupants. *Owners and operators of facilities have the ultimate legal responsibility to provide safety for the occupants of their facilities.*

- This responsibility cannot be transferred to any code authority, local or state.
- The owner / operator has this responsibility regardless of whether or not any inspections have been performed by any authority, local or state.
- The owner / operator has this responsibility regardless of whether or not a plan of correction has been accepted by any authority, local or state.
- The owner / operator has this responsibility regardless of whether or not any plan review has been done by any authority, local or state.
- The Kansas State Fire Marshal's (KSFM) role is to provide life safety oversight, not to provide design services or any method to defer liability away from the owner / operator.
- The KSFM provides risk management services. These services will help facility owner / operators lower their potential risk from incidents which can endanger the occupants of their facilities.
- The KSFM is mandated by state law to serve as a life safety oversight in certain types of facilities.
- The KSFM will identify unacceptable life safety issues in existing facilities and communicate those issues to the owner / operator. It is the owner / operator's responsibility to provide the appropriate solutions. The KSFM will attempt to provide general guidance on how the issue may be appropriately addressed.
- New facilities are expected to comply to all applicable codes and guidelines. Life safety problems in new facilities are unacceptable.
- The owner / operator is responsible for maintaining documentation concerning issues in their facilities. The owner / operator must maintain correspondence from code authorities which document non-conforming condition acceptance for later review by on site inspectors. A code footprint as described by the Kansas State Fire Marshal is the best way to document the code status of a facility.

